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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510–0504
http://feinstein.senate.gov

April 26, 2006

Mr. Earl Denver
27913 Taft Hwy.
Taft, California 93268

Dear Mr. Denver:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the *Felter v. Norton* United States District Court case. I appreciate hearing from you and welcome the opportunity to respond.

I completely agree that Native Americans should not be denied their fundamental civil rights. I also sympathize with the difficulties individuals experience once they are disenrolled or terminated from their respective Native American tribe. On March 23, 2006, the plaintiff in *Felter v. Norton*, Oranna Felter, appealed the district court's decision to dismiss the case. As a United States Senator, I have no jurisdiction over the Judicial branch, and do not involve myself in pending legal issues.

In the meantime, if you have not already done so, I encourage you to contact the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). This Federal agency has the sole responsibility for overseeing the relationship between the United States government and Native American tribal groups. This agency fields complaints and looks into violations of the rights of Native Americans. The BIA can be contacted at (202) 513-7650 or by visiting their website at http://www.doi.gov/bureau-indian-affairs.html.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to write me. I hope you will continue to keep in touch with me on issues of importance to you. If you have any additional questions or comments, please call my Washington, D.C. office at (202) 224-3841 or visit my website at http://feinstein.senate.gov. Best regards.

Sincerely,

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

DF: jm: wd